

SOME NOTES ON GALIUM.

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IN my previous paper on the genus *Galium*¹ several varieties of *Galium tinctorium* were described among which was the variety *Labradoricum*, and the range there given was "In sphagnous bogs Connecticut, New York and Wisconsin northward to Labrador. Since that time Mr. M. L. Fernald has generously supplied me with fruiting specimens and has called my attention to the fact that this form is really a distinct species, quite different in many respects from *Galium tinctorium*. Observations made during the past summer have fully convinced me of the correctness of his view, and it seems, therefore, desirable to raise this variety to specific rank as follows.

GALIUM Labradoricum sp. nov. (*C. tinctorium Labradoricum* Wiegand Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 24; 398, 1897.) Low and erect, or ascending and more diffuse if in shady places, 1-4 dm. high, moderately stout: stem 4-angled, nearly or quite smooth: early in the season somewhat bushy branched, but later through the elongation of erect branches appearing often nearly simple: internodes 1-4 times the length of the leaves: leaves mostly in fours, 5-13 mm. long, oblong-linear, rounded at the apex, cuneate at the base, glabrous except the aculeolate margins, dull above, usually more or less reflexed: flowers very few in groups of 2-6 on short terminal peduncles which later become stout and apparently lateral: pedicels short, mostly reflexed in fruit, 1-3 fld.: corolla large 2-3 mm in diam. white, lobes 4, acute: fruit small, glabrous; carpels 1.25 mm. diam. usually but one developing: endosperm a hollow sphere.

Sphagnous bogs and arbor vitae swamps, Connecticut, New York and Wisconsin northward to Labrador.

Specimens studied; — Oswego Co., New York, *Rowlee & Wiegand* 1895 (type, in herb. Cornell Univ.); Connecticut (Torr. Herb.): New York (Torr. Herb.): Wisconsin (*Lapham*); Lake Superior (*Loring*); Maine (Aroostook Co., *Fernald*); Newfoundland (*Waghorne*, 1893); Labrador (*Storer*).

This species grows quite generally throughout the sphagnous bogs of northeastern North America and seems confined to such localities, while *G. tinctorium* grows normally in ordinary swamps or

¹*Galium trifidum* and its North American Allies. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 24; 389, 1897.

marshes and is a more southern plant. It differs from *G. tinctorium* in the fruit which is only one-half as large, the carpels of the latter species being 2.25–3 mm. in diameter, in the position of the fruit on short stout apparently lateral branches, and in the more reflexed leaves which are of equal breadth throughout or slightly spatulate, but not with a tendency toward the lanceolate form as in *G. tinctorium*. But it is similar to the latter species in the smooth stem, sparsity of flowers, 4-parted acute-lobed corolla and fruit maturing usually but one carpel, and in the hollow spherical endosperm.

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A NEWLY INTRODUCED GALIUM.—Last summer in the latter part of June, while wandering through a low, swampy meadow at Norfolk, Conn., I chanced upon a small clump of yellow Galium.

At first sight I thought the plant was the yellow bedstraw that is occasionally found in this region, *G. verum*, L., and wondered that it should blossom a month earlier than usual and choose such soil, as before I had always found it in dry, sandy fields. Upon closer inspection I was convinced that this clump was not *G. verum*. The plants were more slender, with fewer and larger flowers, while the flower clusters were shorter and more scattered upon the stem. Being unable to find any description of it, a specimen was sent to the Gray Herbarium where it was determined as *G. praecox*, Lang in Hagenbach's *Flora Basiliensis Supplement*, 26 (1843). The Norfolk plant was compared with specimen no. 2222 "Flora Exsiccata Austro-Hungarica" and was also matched with specimens from Deidesheim collected by Schultz Bipontinus and labeled *G. Wirtgeni*, Schultz, the latter name appearing to be a synonym for *G. praecox*, Lang. Our plant is a native of Central Europe and this, so far as known, is the first report of its introduction into New England.—MARY C. SEYMOUR, Norfolk, Connecticut.

PLANTS NEW TO THE FLORA OF NEW BEDFORD.—In a dumping ground on the outskirts of New Bedford I found in June a colony of about a dozen plants bearing diminutive, white, umbellate flowers. It was necessary to revisit the locality later to obtain fruited specimens essential in determining the species, which proved to be *Coriandrum*